

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/964,410

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application are respectfully requested. Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1 and 3-16 are pending in the application. Claims 9-13 are allowed.

By this Amendment, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 14 to incorporate all of the limitations of allowable dependent claims 17 and 18 and canceled claims 17-20 in order to place the claims in condition for allowance (the September 21, 2004 Advisory Action indicates that the rejections of dependent claims 17 and 18 have been overcome and these claims are considered to contain patentable subject matter). Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher R. Lipp
Registration No. 41,157

SUGHRUE MION, PLLC
Telephone: (202) 293-7060
Facsimile: (202) 293-7860

WASHINGTON OFFICE

23373

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: October 4, 2004

Attorney Docket No.: Q66456